



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

2023 - 2024 Annual Report



To my Optimist Superheroes:

On behalf of the Optimist International Foundation, I would like to thank you for your gracious giving during the 2023-2024 year. Your kindness and generosity helped improve the lives of children in communities worldwide. Our organization is now stronger because of you.

The theme for 2023-2024 was "Be A Superhero." I have witnessed so many Optimist Friends do amazing efforts to benefit those in need over the many years of my involvement. No task is too small, no hurdle too high to overcome, if we are helping the youth in our communities.

Just a few highlights for the year are:

1. We began a special focused giving effort, Superhero Weekend of Giving, to benefit the first JOI Summit. OIF was able to give Optimist International \$10,000 for the special youth event all due to the kind giving of many members.
2. We thanked our William H. Harrison members with a special pin to recognize their continued donations and support of the Foundation.
3. We adopted and worked through the SOAR process, which is a strategic planning tool where we identified our Strengths, Opportunities, Aspirations and Results which helped us depict and contrast our current organization abilities with future potential.

It was an honor and privilege to serve as the 2023-2024 Optimist International Foundation President.

I would like to personally thank the other members of the Board of Directors that I had the pleasure of serving with for their time, encouragement, guidance and support over the past several years, as well as their dedication to the Foundation's mission. Those fellow Board members are Jan Oord Graves, Marc Katz, Debra Merritt, Ben DeRemer, Jim Kondrasuk, Fatima Plater, Deanna Morrow and Ken Garner.

Another huge thank you goes to Foundation's Executive Director Craig Boring, Senior Director of Donor Services Shenita Taylor, and the rest of the staff at OIF headquarters in St. Louis. And a very special shout out and well deserved thank you to our DFRs and CFRs, our literal boots on the ground, for all their efforts in support of the Foundation.

Yours in Optimism and Appreciation,

Thank you again for being "Superheroes". Your generosity and support are truly appreciated.

Teri Davis
2023-2024 President

Mission:

Seeking, receiving and managing funds and real and personal property for the benefit of Optimist International and its Member Clubs for charitable, literary, and educational activities

Vision:

We envision a Foundation that can provide significant funding for Optimist International's youth and service programs and is proudly supported by individual Optimists, their Clubs, and the community at large.

Board of Directors:

Teri Davis, *President*

Ben DeRemer, *President-Elect*

Fatima Plater, *Treasurer*

Ken Garner, *Director*

Deanna Morrow, *Director*

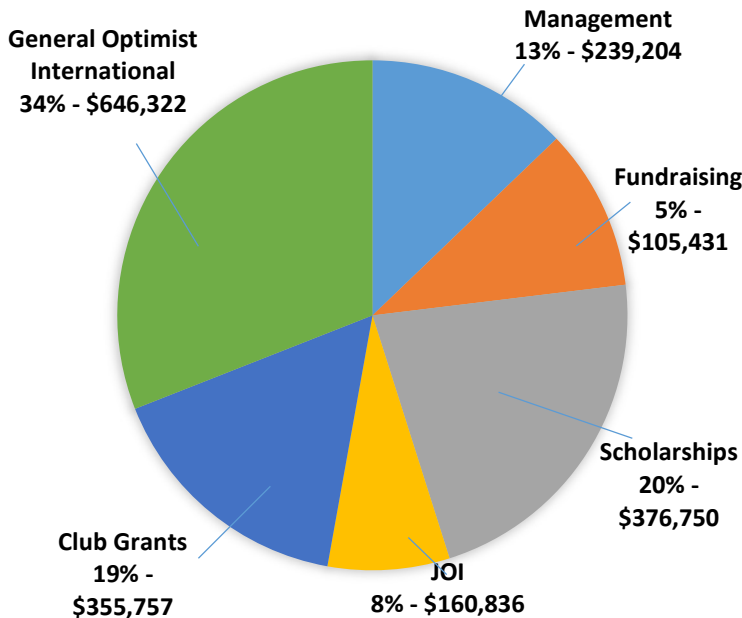
Craig Boring, *Executive Director/Secretary*



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\$1,884,300 EXPENDITURES



General O. I. Grants:

Childhood Cancer Campaign, Club Campaign Fund, *The Optimist*, accounting, growth, disaster relief, International development, allocated staff time for programs, training at International Convention, endowment payouts

Management and Operations:

Audit, legal, banking, investment expense, some convention expenses, currency transactions, state registrations

Fundraising:

Recognition program, planned giving, brochures

Financial Information: 10/1/23 - 9/30/24

Revenues and Support

Public Support	\$1,227,793
Revenues, Gains and Losses	\$2,938,590

Expenses

Program Services	\$1,539,665
Management/Fundraising	\$344,635

Net Assets

Beginning of year	\$6,666,092
End of year	\$8,948,175

Per Audited Financial Statements

Key Achievements:

- Assisted 320 Optimists to help 20,957 children and their families by awarding 19 Club Grants.
- Continued to support the ongoing work of the Junior Optimist program with \$160,836 in funding.
- Sent 134 students off to college with Optimist International oratorical, essay, and CCDHH scholarships totaling \$252,500.
- Supported the OI World Oratorical Championship by funding the U.S. and International Regional winners, plus the first and third place winners in the finals totaling \$55,000.

BE A SUPERHERO



Helping Optimists Help Kids

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